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Date: August 31, 1999

To:  
Jane Henney, Commissioner  
Food & Drug Administration  
Fax: 301-827-6870

From:  
Jackie Wright  
P. O. Box 713, Kamuela, HI 96743  
Tel: 808-885-4210

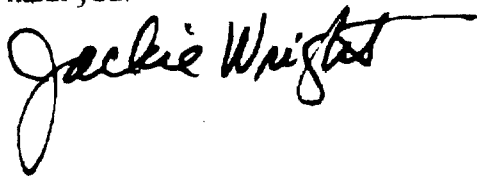
Re: Document #99P-0485

Antibiotics used to treat human disease are consistently fed to poultry, cattle and pigs to speed their growth or counteract the effects of crowded living conditions and poor hygiene. Mounting evidence shows that the routine use of human antibiotics in livestock may diminish the drug's ability to cure infections in people. In addition, there are many people who are allergic to any number of human antibiotics.

I urge you to not allow an antibiotic to be used in livestock feed if that antibiotic is used in human medicine. It would be contrary to your responsibility to allow people to suffer from a reaction, including possible permanent harm or death, to livestock containing human antibiotics. Your ban would protect all people who consume such livestock, Americans as well as those abroad.

I count on your protecting the health of the American people and, in addition, that of people abroad.

Thank you.



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